

# ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **ASSEMBLY, No. 5508**

with committee amendments

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 13, 2019

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 5508, with committee amendments.

This bill amends P.L.2005, c.251, the statute requiring health insurance carriers and the State health benefits programs to cover prescription female contraceptives, by prohibiting insurers from imposing a deductible, coinsurance, copayment, or any other cost-sharing requirement on this coverage.

Currently, federal law requires coverage for female contraceptives to be provided without cost sharing in certain circumstances. This bill would expand State law to also require coverage for female contraceptives to be provided without cost sharing.

As amended, the bill provides that health insurance carriers and the State health benefits programs subject to the bill are required to provide coverage for the certain services, drugs, devices, products, and procedures, including contraceptive drugs, devices and products approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, subject to certain conditions.

The bill also mandates coverage for:

- (1) Voluntary male and female sterilization.
- (2) Patient education and counseling on contraception.
- (3) Certain services related to the administration and monitoring of drugs, devices, products and services required under the bill.

The bill provides that nothing in bill limits coverage of any additional preventive service for women, as identified or recommended by the United States Preventive Services Task Force or the Health Resources and Services Administration of the United States Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 300gg-13.

The bill requires prepaid prescription service organizations to provide coverage under every contracts for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription female contraceptives, and the services, drugs, devices, products, and procedures as determined to be required to be covered by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance pursuant to regulation.

The bill also removes the exemption in current law for religious employers to provide coverage for female contraceptives if the

required coverage conflicts with the religious employer's bona fide religious beliefs and practices.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:**

The committee amendments provide that health insurance carriers and the State health benefits programs subject to the bill are required to provide coverage for the certain services, drugs, devices, products, and procedures, including contraceptive drugs, devices and products approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, subject to certain conditions.

The amendments also mandate coverage for:

- (1) Voluntary male and female sterilization.
- (2) Patient education and counseling on contraception.
- (3) Certain services related to the administration and monitoring of drugs, devices, products and services required under the bill.

The amendments provide that nothing in bill limits coverage of any additional preventive service for women, as identified or recommended by the United States Preventive Services Task Force or the Health Resources and Services Administration of the United States Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 300gg-13.

The amendments require prepaid prescription service organizations to provide coverage under every contracts for expenses incurred in the purchase of prescription female contraceptives, and the services, drugs, devices, products, and procedures as determined to be required to be covered by the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance pursuant to regulation.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The amendments exceed the requirements under the ACA which covered under the State's SHPB and SEHBP plans. Therefore the amendments will increase costs to the SHBP and the SEHBP by an indeterminate amount.